



Fire Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY HOME OXYGEN USE

On June 4, 2006, the Milwaukee Fire Department responded to a two-alarm fire on the south side. The fire destroyed one home and damaged a second home. Four civilians and one firefighter were injured in the fire. The fire caused a total loss (\$157,000) to the original fire building, \$30,000 to one house next door, and \$3,000 to the other neighbors ' house.

The fire was fueled by home oxygen used by the occupant. The occupant was also a smoker and admitted smoking just prior to the fire starting.

In an attempt to help prevent fires, the Milwaukee Fire Department reminds citizens with home oxygen that there is an increased chance of fire. Pure oxygen can increase combustibility to almost explosive levels.

We ask that citizens with home oxygen supplies adhere to the following:

- Ø Have a working smoke detector.
- Ø Have their home marked with signs on the front door that oxygen is in the home.
- Ø Have NO SMOKING signs on all doors into the home.
- Ø Keep the oxygen tanks properly stored and away from open flames.
- Ø Do not store old oxygen tanks in your house.

Help the Milwaukee Fire Department keep Milwaukee fire safe. Your actions could save a life, maybe your own.

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